CONFIDENTIAL.

THE PALACE, BANGALORE.

10th August 1925.

3713)

My dear Sir,

I am directed to send you the following reply to your letter of the 27th July 1925, with reference to my letter to you of the 26th idem.

In the first place, I am to observe that His Highness considered it time that his views in the matter of the official tours of the Dewan, more especially with reference to his acceptance of caskets from private persons or public bodies, should be expressed in clear and unequivocal terms, and should be placed on record, not only for your own guidance but also for that of your successors. It was chiefly with that object in view that the letter was written. Your letter in reply has only served to demonstrate the necessity of making clear His Highness's views in these matters.

The following sentences occur in your letter under reply :-

" ..... definite instructions have been issued to the Deputy Commissioners some weeks ago that the representations of local bodies and Municipal Councils at the Taluk Head-quarters to be visited by me should be informal, and that I would meet them and discuss with them their local wants. In regard to the concluding portion of your letter it may interest His Highness to know that I have declined all formal functions either of social or of an official character."

His Highness would be glad to know how far these instructions were carried out by the officers and others concerned during your recent tour.

As regards the second para of your letter I am to say that your predecessors never accepted any caskets without the

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special permission of His Highness, as the enclosed copies of correspondence will show.

You say that " if any instructions were necessary, they should have been issued at that time to save any possible misunderstanding or a wrong procedure on my part." I am to observe that omission to draw your attention to the rules bearing on the conduct of Public Servants, rules which every official is presumed to know, hardly constitutes a reasonable ground for protest in the present instance.

I am at the same time to explain that His Highness is not averse to the Dewan taking part in social functions. Indeed, he feels that the more freely he mixes with officials and non-officials during his tours, and the more he comes in contact with them, the better it is for all concerned. Nor is His Highness against his receiving addresses. But he strongly objects to the acceptance of caskets by him, and to unnecessarily heavy expenditure being incurred by public bodies for his reception and entertainment.

With reference to the last para of your letter, I am only to state that His Highness is in the best position to judge what reliance is to be placed on any information that reaches him, through whatever channel, and whether any action should be taken thereon.

While on this subject, I am to draw your attention to a regrettable feature of the entertainment given in your honour recently by the Vokkaligara Sangha, namely, the very prominent part taken by the officers of Government at that function, one of them even reading the address presented to you.

His Highness feels sure that you will agree with him that it is most undesirable for Government officials to take part, direct or indirect, in such functions. I am also to remind you

that it is necessary to obtain the previous permission of His Highness for the acceptance of a complimentary address and entertainment, such as the one given to you by the Vokkaligara Sangha.

In conclusion, I am to state that there is nothing in the letter that I wrote to you under His Highness's orders, which needs modification in the slightest degree, and to express the hope that the instructions therein conveyed will be loyally and strictly followed by you in future.

Yours sincerely,

Rajamantra Thurina

Sir Albion Banerji, Kt., C.S.I., I.E.S.,

Dewan of Mysore,

Bangalore.